



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# The transformative potential of pottery in Central Anatolian Neolithic

MARCINIAK A. <sup>1</sup>\*

<sup>1</sup> Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu, Poznan, Poland

\*Corresponding author

## Abstract

The progression of the Central Anatolian Neolithic had two sequences of short bursts of intense development followed by lengthy periods of stabilization and then abrupt disappearance. The first phase marks the emergence, development, and demise of the non-ceramic Neolithic foragers and incipient farmers in the region. The second and most pronounced burst marks the beginning of Çatalhöyük, the most emblematic settlement in the region, and is associated with the emergence of pottery.

In this paper, I will scrutinize the emergence and subsequent development of this most pronounced phase of Central Neolithic development by examining its correspondence with pottery making and use in enhancing and accelerating the modalities of the regional form of the Neolithic. Secondly, I will discuss the abrupt demise of its mode of existence and the inability to restore it throughout the final 250 years of the settlement occupation, leading to its ultimate abandonment. Special attention will be given to the causes and mechanisms of this process in relation to a deliberate avoidance of the rapidly emerging new form of pottery production, use, and decoration, including painting.

## Keywords

Neolithic, Central Anatolia, pottery, talhk

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